



# **UNC SYSTEM'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

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University of North Carolina System Office

House Select Committee on COVID-19  
Education Working Group  
April 2, 2020

# UNC System's Response to COVID-19

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## **March 11<sup>th</sup>:**

*Decision made to move classes online where possible*

- *As of March 25<sup>th</sup>, almost 100% classes online*

## **March 17<sup>th</sup>:**

*Decision to Send Students Home (with limited exceptions)*

- *Approximately 65,000 students in residence halls down to around 3,250, as of last week*

## **Planning for Summer Classes to be Online**

- *Planning contingencies for Fall Semester*

# CARES Act Passage/Student Relief

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## Significant Support for Higher Education in package

- *\$13 Billion for public and private Institutions of Higher Ed (IHE)*
- *Awaiting Federal Guidance on allowable usages*
- *Expect restrictions on reimbursements*

## Student Reimbursements Announced March 29<sup>th</sup>

- *Complicated by:*
  - *Federal guidelines for allowable uses of CARES Act Funds*
  - *Potential impact to financial aid if crediting future semesters*
  - *Pay student, lender, or scholarship in case of reimbursements*

# UNC System's Response

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## UNC Institution's Expenses

- *Pro-rated Reimbursement for Student Housing/Meal plans*
- *Responding to Pandemic*
  - *Transition classes to online platform*
  - *New PPE and increased sanitization costs*
  - *Required compensation increases for mandatory employees*
  - *Associated costs with assisting state response*
- *Support for UNC employees who are receipt-supported*
  - *Impacts many students who work as part of their financial aid package*
  - *State law prevents students from collecting unemployment insurance if: work associated with school where student taking classes, or school combines work academic instruction and work requirements*

# UNC System's Response

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## UNC Institution's Expenses

- *Financial Aid to students struggling to stay enrolled*
- *Enrollment Funding in Arrears (\$29,075,005)*
  - *Funding for education delivered from January-December 2019*
- *Enhanced Online Education Offerings*

## Costs to UNC Affiliates/Institutions

- *UNC-TV partnership with NCDPI to deliver online content*
- *Lost revenue at NC Arboretum*
  - *Significant losses from lack of tourism*
- *NCSSM Not Included in CARES*
  - *Neither LEA or Institution of Higher Education (IHE)*

# Policy Support Needed

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## **Non-budget relief needed for students/institutions:**

- *Waive repayment of Financial Aid for COVID-related withdrawals*
- *Waive interest on outstanding student balances*
  - *AG believes statutory fix is required*
- *Regulatory Flexibility for Ed Prep Programs*
- *Waive State Retirement 6-month break in service requirement for health care and education workers to reenter workforce*

# QUESTIONS?

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# ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

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